Sectt. H-27—60,004—17-11-48

ச and P.H (194) Department.

Ms SERIES.

G.O. NO. 428. P.H

Dated 4. 2. 50.

[Despatch Abstract.]

Cholera - Inoculation viz - Kodaikanal
Jgr - Mahadheswara Jatra
Preventive measures - Orders Passed

GOVERNMENT OF HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA OF MYSORE.

No. M/10283/P.H.128-49-1 Sml 1

General and Revenue Secretariat,

Dated Bangalore, 29 Dec! *19* 49.

FROM

The Secretary to the Government of
His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore,
Public Health, Food & Civil Supplies Departments,
B A N G A L O R E.

To

The Chief Secretary,
Government of Madras,
M A D R A S.

2 3 7

SIR,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of letter dated 1st November 1949 received from Sri. K. Siddegowda, Member, Municipal Council and Rural Development Committee, Kankanahalli, bringing to the notice of this Government, the havoc caused by the importation of Cholera from the pilgrims who had gone to Mahadeswara Jatra.

2. In this connection it may be stated that the existence of prevalence of Cholera at Mahadeswara Betta, was not known till cases began to be reported by the local authorities on 23rd October 1949. There was also an adjournment motion on this subject at the last session of the Representative Assembly. Had this Government been appraised of the outbreak of Cholera before hand, arrangements would have been made to appraise the people of the infection and advice them to get themselves inoculated before proceeding to the Jatra and even prevented from going to the Jatra. The total casualty on account of Cholera in this State from October to this date is 838.

3. In the above circumstances, I am to request you to be so good as to arrange to intimate the Government of Mysore, sufficiently well in time so that preventive measures may be taken to avoid such unhappy features hereafter.

Yours faithfully,

Secretary to Government,
Public Health, Food & Civil Supplies Departments.

Tsk.

Letter dated 1st November 1949 from Sri. K. Siddegowda, Kankanahal

Having last the father, attacked by Cholera on the Madeswara hill, I was obliged to address this letter with burnigg heart and I beg leave to express my feelings about this pilgrimage.

The Government of Madras is quite aware of the fact that there is the outbreak of cholera often and it is not a new experience to the Government.

Many people both in Mysore and Madras lose their lives and many families are ruined having lost either the head of the family or the earning member or the only son etc. One has to stretch his imagination and realise the sufferings of those families. If one had seen the dead bodies on the way back from the hill and, had heard about the sorrowful tales, one's heart would have simply melt and any body would curse either the innocent superstition people or the society which created temple in such place or the Government which has criminally neglected its duties.

Except the Government, the other two may be excused considering the standard of people and the time when the temples were felt necessary Therefore, the Government should bear the responsibility for what has been passed now. The Government stand condemned fro not learning a lesson from previous experiences.

In the light of the above, I wish to suggest to the Government of Madras that one of the following means is to be adopted to save the situation in future.

1. The Government of Madras has to provide protected water supply, proper food and shelter and has to maintain proper roads and build choultries to cook their food if pilgrims desire.
2. If that is not possible, the pilgrimage itself has to be put and end to.
3. If both the above are not possible the idol of Madeswara itself may be removed to some other place where proper facilities could be provided for pilgrims.

I hope that my humble suggestions shall be considered favourably.

"COPY"

for Secretary to Government,
Public Health, Food & Civil Supplies
Departments.

Tsk.3.

T & C and P. H. T.

T mdt. No 339/50-T-1. P.H dated 4.1-50

Referred to the D.P.H for urgent remarks

4.1.50

RM
3.1.50
AV
3.1.50

To
The D. P. H
(with 3 copies of pp 1-3 and 5)
dfd with extracts
BM
7-1-50

5/ E and P.H.E

E.No. 339/50 Sub: Cholera - Mysore State - Madeshwara Jatra - Importation of cholera from the pilgrims - Measures for prevention.

Memo No 339/50-2-E - P.H. dated 25.1.50

80
25/1

The attention of the D.P.H is invited to your Endt. No 339/50-1-E - P.H dated 4.1.50 and he is requested to furnish the information called for therein at the earliest.

Copy

To
The D.P.H

28.1.50
23.1.50
AV
23.1.50

E
E No. 1/50

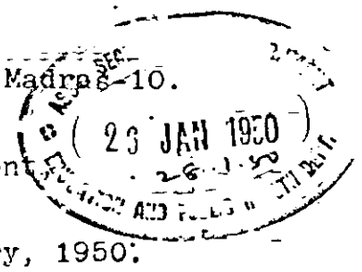
Public Health Department

From

Dr.R.Subrahmanyam, M.P.H.(Harvard),
Director of Public Health, Kilpauk, Madras-10.

To

The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health Department,
Fort St. George, Madras.



R. No. 1971-2-Epi./'50 Dated 25th January, 1950.

Sir,

Subject:- Epidemics - Mahadheswara Jatra - Preventive measures.
Reference:- Government Endorsement No.339/50-E.1-P.H., dated 4-1-50.

Due intimation is being usually given in advance of the festivals occuring in Kollegal Taluk. In connection with the Madheswara Betta Jatra in Kollegal Taluk, which is to take place between 13th and 19th February 1950, the District Health Officer, Coimbatore, has already given intimation. A copy of letter No.165-1/49-50 dated 12-1-50 of the Director of Public Health, Mysore, and the remarks of the District Health Officer, Coimbatore, on it, are enclosed herewith. The cholera situation in Kollegal is not serious enough to warrant the prohibition of the festival. But in view of the difficulties pointed out by the District Health Officer and considering the prevalence of cholera in Mysore territory from where the bulk of the pilgrims are drawn, it is advisable to prohibit the festival and enforce the prohibition strictly.

Yours faithfully,

For Director of Public Health,
Madras.

Enclosures:-

(1) Copy of letter No.BE.1651/49-50 dated 12-1-50 of the Director of Public Health, Mysore, to the Director of Public Health, Madras.

In continuation of my letter No.B.E.1556/49-50 dated 3rd January 1950, requesting you kindly to take necessary steps to prevent the holding of Venkatagiri Jatra, I write to state that cases of genuine cholera are still being reported from various parts from Mysore and Bangalore Districts.

The District Health Officer, Coimbatore District, has written in his letter No.Nil dated 10th January 1950, to say that the Mahadeswara Betta Jatra at Madeswara Hills in Kollegal taluk, is to be held between 13th and 19th February 1950, and that, therefore, he would like to meet the local Health Officers to discuss and concert measures for preventing the spread of cholera among the pilgrims.

As you would be aware, this Jatra has been responsible for large out-breaks of cholera on a number of occasions previously and, Mysore, which contributes a very large number of pilgrims has, as a result, suffered considerably during every one of these epidemics. It looks to me that it is most inadvisable at the present time to permit this Jatra in view of the fact that the out-break of cholera which started in the minor Jatra in the same Hills during Deepavali is still continuing in the Mysore State. I, therefore, request you kindly to see that Mahadeswara Betta Jatra is not held this year; and that suitable arrangements are made to safeguard the health of such of those people as may manage to get into the area in spite of the prohibitory orders.

Sd.T.Chandrasekharaiyer,
12-1-50.
Director of Public Health,Mysore.

(2) Copy of letter Roc.No.2625/E/49 dated 21-1-50 of the District Health Officer, Coimbatore, to the Director of Public Health, Madras.

Ref:- Your R.No.1971-2-Epi./'50 Dated 20-1-50.

Please see below a statement of attacks and deaths from Cholera in Kollegal Taluk from December 1949 onwards. It will be seen that the disease is only sporadic in character now.

Week ending.	Number of villages.	Attacks.	Deaths.	Remarks.
3-12-1949.	1	1	1	
10-12-1949.	1	10	1	
17-12-1949.	2	2	5	
24-12-1949.	1	1	1	
31-12-1949.	-	-	-	
7-1-1950.	-	-	-	
14-1-1950.	1	1	1	(Imported from Dodda Borhalli, village of Malavalli Taluk of Mysore State).

There is water scarcity in the district owing to the failure of the Monsoon and it is possible that several of the water sources all along the roads to Madheswaran Hills may dry up by the time of the festival, and so the question of supplying safe water to the pilgrims, several of whom walk over 50 miles to and from the Hills, may present a serious problem. Further, as the majority of the pilgrims come from Mysore State and as the Director of Public Health, Mysore, states that cholera is still continuing in the State, stopping the Madheswaran Hills Sivarathri festival as suggested by the Director of Public Health, Mysore, would, in my opinion, be justified. It may be mentioned here that the out-break in the Hills at the time of last Deepavali festival, occurred among persons coming from Mysore Territory.

--- Sd. A.K.Subbaraman, L.M.S., B.S.Sc.,
District Health Officer, Coimbatore.

--true copies--

TRR augusan

for Director of Public Health, Madras.

ks.25-1-50.

339/50

From
The Director of Public Health,
MADRAS, KILPAUK.

To
The Secretary to Government,
Education and Public Health
Department, Fort. St. George, MADRAS

R.NO.1971-4 Epi/50 Dated 2-2-1950.

Sir,

Sub:-Cancellation of Madheswarabetta Jatra.

8154

A copy of Telegram dated 1-2-1950 of the Director of Public Health, Mysore is sent herewith in continuation of this office letter R.No.1971-2 Epi-50 dated 25-1-1950. Orders of Government are awaited.

P-7

ASSISTANT SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT
9 - FEB 1950
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT.

Yours faithfully,

T R Rangaswamy

FOR DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, MADRAS

Copy of the telegram referred to above.

REFERENCE INVITED LETTER THIRTEENTH JANUARY MAHADESWARABETT JATRA FIFTEENTH FEBRUARY ARRANGE TO STOP JATRA CHOLERA CASES REPORTED. REPLY ACTION TAKEN BY TELEGRAM.

(True copy)

T Rangaswamy

FOR DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH, MADRAS

sm.2/2

GOVERNMENT OF ~~HIS HIGHNESS THE MAHARAJA~~ OR MYSORE.

No. M 12355/PH 128-49-3. General and Revenue Secretariat,

Dated Bangalore, 31st January ....*19* 50.

FROM

The Secretary to the Government of Mysore,
~~*His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.*~~
Public Health, Food and Civil Supplies Departments.

The Chief Secretary to Government of Madras,

MADRAS.

8278

SIR,

In continuation of this office letter No.M.10283/P.H.128-49-1 dated 29-12-1949, I am directed to forward herewith, a copy of letter dated 12th January 1950 addressed to the Director of Public Health in Madras by the Director of Public Health in Mysore, regarding Mahadeswara Bettajatra at Mahadeswara Hills in Kollegal Taluk, and to request you to be so good as to arrange to take action to call off this Jatra for the reasons stated in the letter cited above, as otherwise, the chances of a large outbreak of cholera in the State are very imminent.

The Government of Mysore would be grateful for an early reply as to the action taken in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

H.S. Jamal
Secretary to Government,
Public Health, Food and
Civil Supplies Departments.

SKG3.

Copy of letter dated 12-1-1950 from the Director of Public Health in Mysore, Bangalore, to the Director of Public Health, Madras.

.....

Subject:- Mahadeswara Betta Jatra at Madeswara Hills in Kollegal Taluk.

In continuation of my letter No.B.E.1556/49-50 dated 3rd January 1950, requesting you kindly to take necessary steps to prevent the holding of Venkatagiri Jatra, I write to state that cases of genuine cholera are still being reported from various parts from Mysore and Bangalore Districts.

The District Health Officer, Combatore District, has written in his letter No.nil dated 10th January1950 to say that the Mahadeswara Betta Jatra at Madeswara Hills in Kollegal taluk is to be held between 13th and 19th February 1950 and that, therefore, he would like to meet the local Health Officers to discuss and concert measures for preventing the spread of cholera among the pilgrims.

As you would be aware this Jatra has been responsible for large outbreaks of cholera on a number of occasions previously and, Mysore, which contributes a very large number of pilgrims has, as a result, suffered considerably during every one of these epidemics. It looks to me that it is most inadvisable at the present time to permit this Jatra in view of the fact that the outbreak of cholera which started in the minor Jatra in the same Hills during Deepavali is still continuing in the Mysore State. I, therefore, request you kindly to see that Mahadeswara Betta Jatra is not held this year; and that suitable arrangements are made to safeguard the health of such of those people as may manage to get into

P.t.o.

into the area in spite of the prohibitory orders.

"C O P Y".

FOR SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
PUBLIC HEALTH, FOOD AND CIVIL
SUPPLIES DEPARTMENTS.

SKG)

F and P.H.D

This connected file has been circulated to H.M (P.H) on 1.2.50. His return may be awaited till 6.2.50

4.2.50

4.2.50

Immediate

Draft I

C and P.H.C

Letter / Ref 339/50-3-C—P.H. dated 4.2.50

To The Secretary to the Govt of Mysore, P.H, Food and C.S. Depts Bangalore

Copy to the D.P.H

Sir

Cholera & Coimbatore Dt — Mahadeshwara Jatra - Preventive measures.

Ref your letter No. M. 10283/P.H dated 28.12.49 & 29.12.49 No. M. 12355/P.H/128-49-3 dated 31.1.50.

I am directed to state that the D.H.O. concerned gives usually in advance of the festivals due intimation of the prevalence of the epidemics and that necessary intimation has already been given in respect of the Mahadeshwara Betta jatra in Kollegal Tq. which is to take place between the 13th and 19th February 1950. This Govt do not consider it necessary to call off the jatra (as the cholera situation is not serious enough to warrant such prohibition) but Govt of Mysore to take steps to prevent the pilgrims from going to Kollegal, and warn the public of the risk in going there or may advise them to get themselves inoculated against cholera.

Yours faithfully

E

6.2.50

Immediate

R and P.H.R

Subj: Cholera - Coimbatore Dt - Kollegal Tq - Mahadeshwara Jatra - Preventive measures - Orders Passed

From the Govt of Mysore, P.H, Food and R.S Wepts. No. M.10283-P.H 428-42 d. 29.12.49

D.P.H, R.No. 1971-2-Epd/50 d. 25.1.50.

Order

428 P.H. dated 4-2-50

The D.P.H is informed that the Govt do not consider it necessary to prohibit the Mahadeshwara Betta Jatra in Kollegal Tq (Coimbatore Dt) in view of the epidemic of cholera. If the epidemic is serious the Collector of Coimbatore may be left to take action as cholera is epidemic and to notify the place of the outbreak in the Official Gazette and warn the public of the risk involved in attending the festival or Jatra such action as he may consider necessary under Sections 75 and 76 of the M.P.H Act, 1939.

4.2-50

4.2.50

4.2.50

To.

The D.P.H ✓

Copy to the Collector of Coimbatore - to the Secy to the Govt of Mysore P.H, Food and R.S Wepts. Bangalore.

S/C

CHOLERA - Coimbatore District - Mahadheswara Jatra Preventive measures.

From the Govt. of ~~H.H. the Maharaja of~~ Mysore, P.H., Food, and Civil Supplies Deptt. No.M 10283/P.H.-128/49-1 dated 29-12-1949.

From the D.P.H. R.No.1971-2 Epi/50 dated 25-1-1950.

The Govt. of Mysore have brought to the notice of this Govt. the havoc caused in their territory by the importation of Cholera from the pilgrims, who had gone to Mahadeswara Jatra (Madeswara hills, Kollegal taluk, Coimbatore Dist.). They have stated that the existence of prevalence of Cholera at ~~Madras~~ Mahadeswara Betta was not known till cases began to be reported by the local authorities on 23-10-49. They have requested this Govt. to arrange to intimate them, sufficiently well in time of the existence of the epidemic so that preventive measures may be taken.

2. The D.P.H., whose remarks were called for, reports that due intimation is being given usually in advance of the festivals occurring in Kollegal taluk and that in connection with the Madheswara Jatra in Kollegal Taluk, which is to take place between 13th and 19th February 1950, the D.H.O., Coimbatore has already given intimation. He has not stated specifically whether intimation was given in the case reported by the Mysore Govt. It does not however seem necessary to pursue the matter further as the Mysore Govt have only requested ~~reported~~ that in future due intimation may be given. ~~The D.P.H.~~ the Director of Public Health points out that the Cholera situation in Kollegal is not serious enough to warrant the prohibition of the festival (Mahadeswara Jatra). But in view of the difficulties pointed out by the D.H.O. and the prevalence of cholera in Mysore territory, he considers that it is advisable to prohibit the festival and enforce the prohibition strictly. It is for orders whether his view may be accepted and if so he may be asked to move the Collector

P.T.O.

Collector of Coimbatore for taking necessary action under section 76 of the M.P.H. Act, 1939. The Mysore Govt. may also be informed that the D.H.O. concerned gives usually in advance of the festivals due intimation of the prevalence of the epidemic and that necessary action has been taken in respect of the Madheswara Betta Jatra in Kollegal taluk which is to take place between the 13th and 19th February 1950.

Subject to orders draft letter & memo are submitted for approval.

PM 31.1.50

AV 31.1.50

The Mysore Govt. are anxious that every precaution should be taken to prevent the prevalence of epidemic in places likely to be visited by the Mysore pilgrims. The D.H.O. says that the instructions are generally given and taken in respect of the particular festival this year within a week when already been given. This is enough and the Mysore Govt. may be told about it.

(I may kindly be furnished as an instance to have the information)

2. The D.H.O. speaks of prohibiting the festival (Madeswaraswamy). This should not be done. Under Sec. 76 of the M.P.H. Act, the Govt. or the Collector may take action to place restrictions on the movements of the pilgrims, after notifying the places as cholera-infected. This may favourably be done in this case.

The Mysore Govt. may be told that if they consider necessary, they may prevent the pilgrims from going to Kollegal or may warn the public of the risk in going there or may advise them to get themselves inoculated.

So far as our proposals is concerned, the discretion may be left to the Collector. If the epidemic is serious, he may close the schools to stop the spread and reopen the public or take such other steps as he may consider necessary under Sec. 76 or ~~corresponding~~ and 75

7.2.50

Sayee

2. ~~Home~~ Public ~~Home~~ may be taken on (5. HH(PH)

~~HD 4/2/50~~

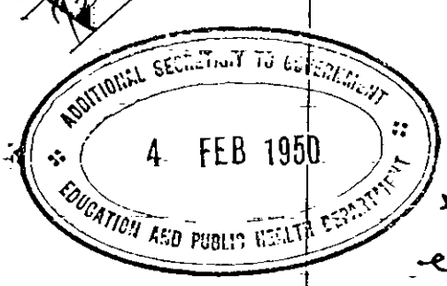
~~Public~~

~~Home~~ Sayee

2 - HH(PH) may see. HD 4/2/50

Seen

HH(PH) 3/2



Please see the ~~since~~ letters ~~received~~ received from the D. P. H ~~regarding~~ and the Govt of Mysore on p-p 9 and 11½. Two drafts are submitted for approval

RM
4.2.50
GV
4.2.50

1 Stove.

4.2.50